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BEFORE THE ARIZONAUCORPORATION COMMISSIONAY 1 5 2000

Arizona Corporation Commission

DOCKETED BY

CARL J. KUNASEK Chairman

JIM IRVIN

Commissioner

WILLIAM A. MUNDELL Commissioner

IN THE MATTER OF US WEST COMMUNICATIONS, INC.'S **COMPLIANCE WITH SECTION 271** OF THE TELECOMMUNICATIONS **ACT OF 1996**

Docket No: T-00000A-97-0238

MCI WORLDCOM'S COMMENTS ADDRESSING THE STAFF'S INTERIM REPORT ON THE ARIZONA MASTER TEST PLAN

MCI WorldCom, Inc., nka WorldCom, Inc., ("WCom") submits these comments to the Interim Report of Staff concerning the Arizona Master Test Plan ("MTP").

UNE-P (Unbundled Network elements – Platform)

The Master Test Plan is described in version 4.0 as follows: "This Master Test Plan sets forth the approach, scope and focus, timeline, roles and responsibilities, testing phases (planning, preparation, execution, and analysis/reporting), and all associated required activities for the testing of the CLEC access that US WEST provides to its OSS."



 WCom requested the MTP Testing Scenarios for UNE-P be modified to specify the following full production line of UNE-P: new, disconnect, conversion "as is", conversion "as specified" and conversion with "directory listing change(s) (DL)." The Staff agreed this "should be done" but would be "most appropriately accomplished through the TAG process and modification of the Test Standards Document ("TSD")".

Recently Colorado¹ and Minnesota² entered rulings that US WEST's interpretation of UNE-P is too limiting. In Docket No. 00B-011T, the Colorado Commission issued Decision No. C00-479 and addressed UNE-P as follows:

The Commission has previously ruled upon the issue regarding US WEST's obligation to combine UNEs requested by CLECs. We have determined that US WEST should be required to combine UNEs for CLECs in the same manner that it normally combines them for itself. See Decision No. C98-1047. The same result should occur here. We accept Sprint's position and will require US WEST to combine UNEs in any manner in which UNEs are ordinarily combined within US WEST's network. US WEST's position on provision of UNE combinations being limited to those UNEs that are already combined or pre-existing is rejected.

In footnote 1 above, the Colorado Commission stated:

To the extent US WEST asserts that our authority to order combinations of network elements is limited because FCC Rules 47 C.F.R. 51.315(c-f) were vacated by the Eighth Circuit Court of Appeals, <u>Iowa Utilities Board v. FCC</u>,120 F. Ed 753 (8th Cir. 1997), we disagree. We affirm our prior ruling in Decision No. C98-267 that the Commission possesses independent authority under State law to order combinations of network elements.

¹ In the Matter of the Petition of Sprint Communications Company, L.P. for arbitration pursuant to U.S. Code § 252(b) of the Telecommunications Act of 1996 to establish an interconnection agreement with U S WEST Communications, Inc ,Initial Commission Decision, issued Date:May 5, 2000.

² Docket No. P-421/CI-99-786, In the Matter of the Federal Court Remand of Issues Proceeding from the Interconnection Agreements Between U S WEST Communications, Inc. and AT&T, MCI, MFS, and AT&T Wireless, Order after Remand, before the Minnesota Public Utilities Commission, issued March 14, 2000.



The Minnesota Commission similarly addressed the issue as follows:

The Commission rejects US WEST's claim that its obligation to combine network elements is limited to those elements actually combined at the time of the request on behalf of the specific customer to whom the CLEC intends to provide service. This is an unreasonably narrow reading of the language of the FCC rule and would undermine the purposes of the Act.

WCom has repeatedly requested of US WEST that it offer a full production line of UNE-P, consistent with the terms of its interconnection agreements with MWCom, because it is the most effective means for most CLEC's to enter the local market. It has refused to do so. This is authorized in our Arizona interconnection agreement as well as in other states. It is, therefore, critical to assess whether US WEST is meeting its legal obligation and offering non-discriminatory access to this product and its associated services. WCom believes that the MTP and, more specifically, Appendix A should include Test Scenarios for UNE-P "new" that have not been included in the MTP. Although WCom will pursue this issue in the TSD, the test scenarios in the MTP have driven the development of test cases in the TSD. As stated in Section 3.7.4.4 of the TSD, the Test Administrator ("TA") will use the test scenarios from the MTP to develop test cases. If those test scenarios are not in the MTP, the TA will have no test scenarios from which to develop test cases. Therefore, MWCom believes that the MTP and, more specifically, Appendix A should include Test Scenarios for UNE-P "new".

UNE-P Definition

WCom agrees with Staff that a more precise definition of UNE-P is required in the MTP, specifically Appendix B and E. WCom has previously suggested the ROC definition.



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Dated: May 15, 2000

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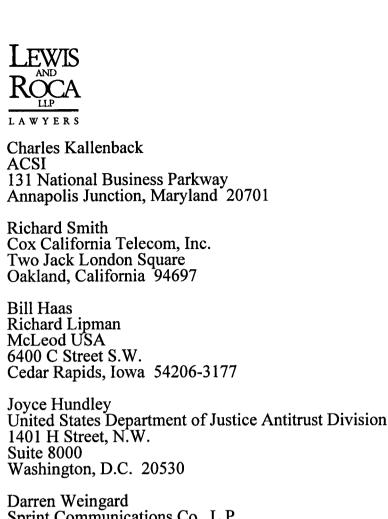
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